

GRIDIDDERS OPEN NEW SEASON

Football is a funny game. An odd-shaped ball is used that often takes strange bounces and completely changes the outcome of a contest. In the approximately two hours consumed by a football game, during which time about 146 plays are run, only 11 1/4 minutes are actually filled with action.

But one thing remains true every year—football is the king of high school sports. This weekend, five Torrance teams will begin a season that will lead to elation for some—and disappointment for others.

Bishop Montgomery, North, South, Torrance and West high schools will open pre-league schedules this weekend following three weeks of practice that began on Sept. 3.

North and Torrance highs will have the most at stake, for both came away with championships in their respective leagues last year. North garnered the Bay League crown and advanced into the CIF quarter-finals

while Torrance snared the Pioneer League title and earned a spot in the CIF playoffs.

South, West and Montgomery had much less than successful seasons, winning only two games and tying one between them.

Each season is completely new and all five teams eagerly anticipate a successful campaign. North figures significantly in the flag chase in the new Sky League while Torrance is a Pioneer contender and South must be given consideration in the Bay League.

Both West and Montgomery may prove to be spoilers in their respective Pioneer and Camino Real leagues.

West will run into Bay League contender Palos Verdes tomorrow night at 8 on the North High field. Last year, the Sea Kings delivered a 51-0 defeat to the

Warriors, but West coach William Parton does not contemplate a second successive massacre.

Perennial opening opponent El Segundo will furnish the first opposition for Torrance tomorrow night in the Tartar's new stadium. Game time will be 8 p.m. as THS attempts to avenge last year's licking.

North will travel to Downey for an 8 p.m. contest tomorrow against a rebuilding Warren eleven. The Saxons earned a 10-0 win last season against Warren's Tight-T. This year the hosts can brag of only five returning lettermen.

Saturday night will mark the official beginning of South's year as the Spartans encounter El Segundo on the Torrance High turf. El Segundo is considered the second best eleven in the Pioneer League.

Two other schools in the Torrance area, Carson and Narbonne, will not open their campaigns until

next week. Narbonne will run up against Washington High at Gardena on Sept. 27 while Carson will tangle with West High on the same date.

Action this weekend will not be strictly confined to the high school level for El Camino College will be pitted against a rugged Alum squad Saturday night in Murdock Stadium. The Warriors hope to continue one of their finest seasons that ended last year with a 7-2 record and a sixth-place national ranking.

Torrance high school teams will now compete in four leagues instead of three. Torrance and West are in the Pioneer loop, South is a Bay League member, North will compete in the infant Sky circuit and Montgomery will still battle in the Camino Real League.

Narbonne and Carson, both City schools, will compete in the Marine League. El Camino belongs to the Metropolitan Conference.

Narbonne Improves With Age

Football is on a rapid upswing at Narbonne High School and even a Marine League championship does not appear out of the question for the Gauchos.

Last year was disastrous for Narbonne and head coach Elmer Douglas as the Gauchos finished with a 0-8 record, but they emerged with plenty of experience and the desire to see the other side of the fence.

Twelve lettermen are back to face one of the most evenly balanced Marine League seasons in history. As usual, Banning is the logical choice to pick up all the marbles, but San Pedro, Jordan, Gardena, Narbonne and Carson are all given good chances to surprise.

DOUGLAS characterizes his club as "a real sleeper," but adds, "Right now we would have to be rated in the middle. We need a quick win to get us underway," he added.

Narbonne will scrimmage Roosevelt tomorrow on the Roughriders' field. Next Friday, the Gauchos will officially open the pre-league season against Washington High on the Gardena High gridiron.

OPERATING from the Wing-T in the Gaucho backfield will be Steve Stanley (170 lbs.), quarterback; Bob Brooks (160 lbs.), left half; Al Thompson (185 lbs.), right half; and Lloyd Edwards (206 lbs.), fullback.

Ends Larry Farwell (165 lbs.) and Don Cunnigan (185 lbs.); tackles Ted Miladinovich (200 lbs.) and Glen Yates (205 lbs.); guards Ben Bump (170 lbs.) and Mike Zagala (185 lbs.); and center Richard Lovell (185 lbs.) gain starting line berths.

The Gauchos will open with a line average of 185 pounds and a backfield average of 180 pounds. Although not particularly heavy, Douglas predicts his club will be quicker than last season.



CUTTING CORNER . . . Lite Bishop Montgomery tackler moves in to nail a West High runner Monday afternoon in a controlled scrimmage. Montgomery mentor George Swade was impressed with his team's defensive performance but felt the offense still needed considerable work. During the three weeks Montgomery has been warming up for tomorrow night's season opener against St. Genevieve, Swade has stressed defense.

(Herald Photo by Darrell Maddox)

Rugged Year Looms For Smallish BMHS

Small and inexperienced Bishop Montgomery will open its pre-Camino Real League schedule tomorrow at 8 p.m. against St. Genevieve in the BMHS stadium.

Head coach George Swade, in his second term at Montgomery, will have only four returning lettermen as the Knights attempt to better last year's 1-8 record.

Swade guarantees Montgomery will come up with a better season than last year although the Knight backfield

will average only 154 pounds and the line 166 pounds.

LAST YEAR, only a win over perennially powerful Catholic League foe Mount Carmel stemmed a string of usually close BMHS defeats.

Opening in the Montgomery backfield will be halfbacks Carlos Thompson (140 lbs.) and Dave Hunt (160 lbs.); fullback Jerry Leininger (160 lbs.) and either Doug Deadaux (150 lbs.) or Armand Lmieux (160 lbs.).

TOP LINE spots are still up

for grabs. At center, either Terry McGuire (180 lbs.) or Bill Yurak (165 lbs.) will open and at left guard either Mike Garcia (200 lbs.) or Lew Sadana (160 lbs.) will get the starting nod.

Other linemen will include flanker John Wojak (160 lbs.), tackles Bernie Fox (160 lbs.) and Don Tetreault (175 lbs.), right guard Dave Hanson (167 lbs.), and left end Dennis Blackburn (170 lbs.).

OPERATING FROM the pro-T, Swade predicts the Knights will be much quicker than last season and despite the lack of weight will give a good account of themselves.

Hard Luck Hits SHS Thinclads

South High cross country coach Dick Scully anticipates more than his share of troubles during the upcoming Bay League season.

Before classes began, Scully had hopes for an outstanding season, but 34 former harriers who are still in school have not turned out for the grueling sport.

Last year, Scully led the Spartans to a 7-2 record and a second-place finish in the Bay League. This term, he predicts a fourth or fifth place finish for South.

MIRA COSTA, Palos Verdes, Santa Monica and Redondo are Scully's picks to fight it out for the championship.

Comprising the top seven runners for South will be Dave Ledford, senior; Wes Fox, junior; Mike Mooring, junior; Dennis Ayala, senior; Doug Hall, senior; Bruce Boyers, senior; Joe Ruiterman, senior; and Dennis Kirby, junior.

Ex-Pilots Will Help New Colts

Although Carson High will be competing in its first year of football this fall, the Colts will carry one of the Southland's greatest winning grid traditions with them into Marine League action.

Carson will take advantage of the talents of former Banning High mentor Gene Vollnogle and five ex-Pilot players when it meets West High Friday, Sept. 27, in a pre-league contest at 3 p.m. on the Colt field.

Vollnogle was at Banning for 10 years and for six terms was co-coach with Paul Heubner of teams that quickly became known as the Notre Dame of prep football.

DURING HIS six-year tenure, Vollnogle-coached eleven gained five Marine League crowns and finished second once. Four times the Pilots advanced into the City finals, winning the title twice, the last time in 1960.

Although Banning has switched from its famous single-wing to the T-formation, Vollnogle has installed the "horse-and-buggy" system at Carson.

THE COLTS will use a form of the Banning single-wing, modifying to the extent of using a balanced, rather than an unbalanced line.

Comprising the Colt backfield will be Victor Cisneros (157 lbs.), wingback; Bob Nold (205 lbs.), blocking back; Mike Mahon (195 lbs.), fullback; and Mike Turner (115 lbs.), tailback.

McMAHON IS the brother of former Banning star Rich McMahon, currently a member of the defending national champion USC team. Turner was a second-string tailback last year for the Pilots and is described by Vollnogle as a quick, good runner.

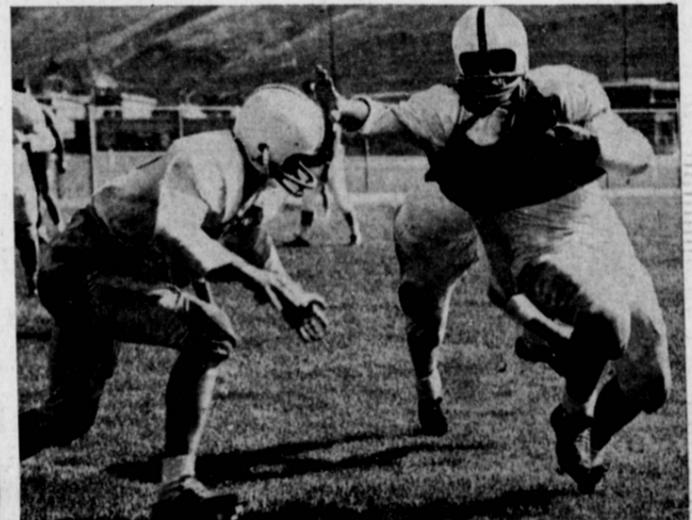
Starting Carson linemen include ends Bill Fern (155 lbs.) and Steve Fortier (155 lbs.), tackles Ben Muase (175 lbs.) and John Berry (185 lbs.), guards Ed Sutherland (172 lbs.) and Ed Duthorn (151 lbs.) and center Jerry Muse (192 lbs.).



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GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor

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STAY AWAY! . . . Two Torrance High players prepare to put an abrupt halt to a South High halfback during a controlled scrimmage Monday. Both schools will open their pre-league pigskin seasons this weekend with Torrance entertaining Redondo tomorrow night and South hosting El Segundo Saturday evening on the THS turf. The Tartars are defending Pioneer League champions while the Spartans will be attempting to better a 0-8 record last year.

(Herald Photo by Darrell Maddox)

Tartar Eleven Eyes Pioneer Title Repeat

Only six lettermen return to Torrance High this season as the Tartars open defense of their Pioneer League football championship.

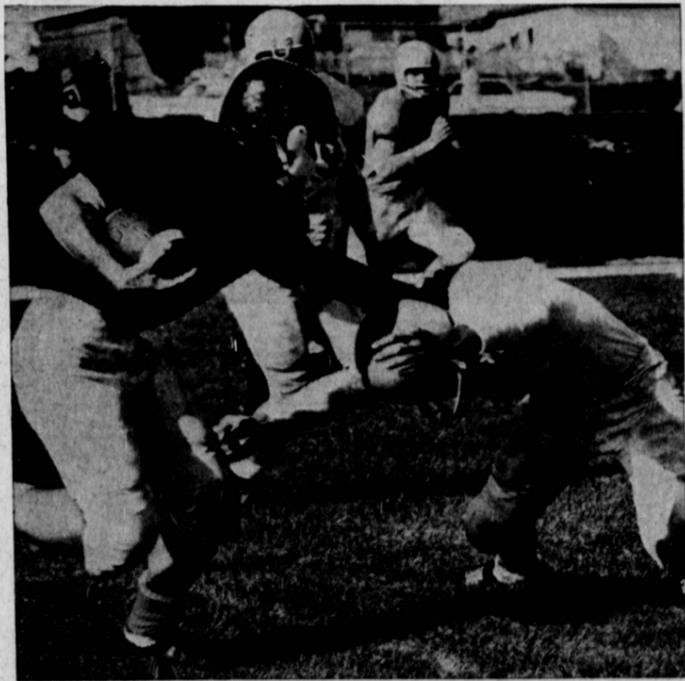
Last year, veteran mentor Irv Kasten coached Torrance to its first undefeated league season in history as the Tartars swept through all Pioneer foes and into the CIF playoffs where they were knocked off by eventual champion South Pasadena.

Another crown appears doubtful to Kasten and he predicts THS will finish third behind power-packed Aviation and El Segundo.

TORRANCE will open its practice schedule tomorrow at 8 p.m. against Bay League powerhouse Redondo. Last year, the Seahawks put one of three blemishes on the Tartars' record. Kasten predicts Redondo will be weaker this year.

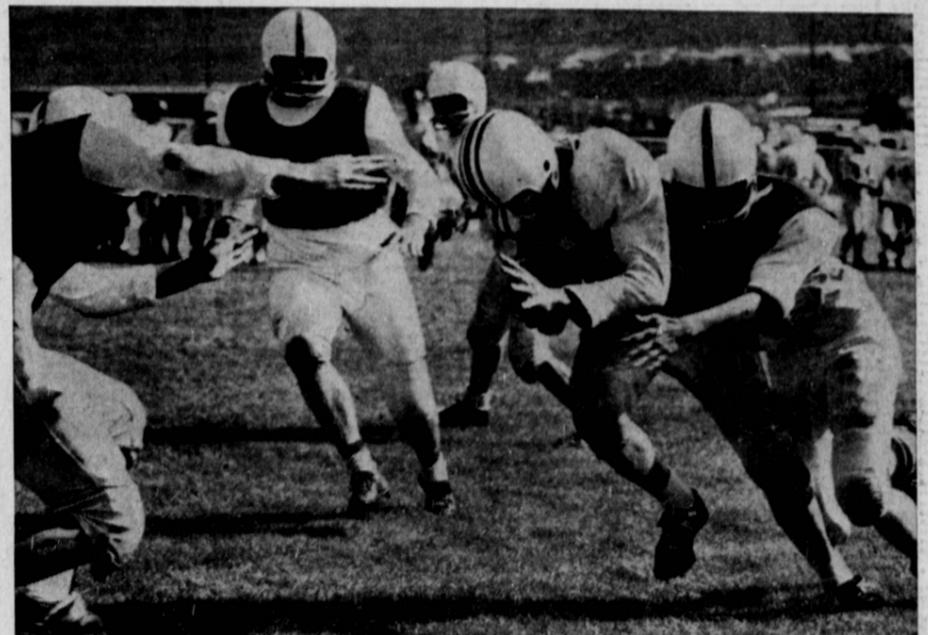
Opening on the line for Torrance will be either Brian Olsen or Tim Lehr, left end; Ed Foster, left tackle; Art Mallo or Hubert Dodos, left guard; Bill Sullivan, center; Tom Brase, right guard; Sonny Yanes, right tackle; and Ron Ponce, right end.

GREG BARRET, quarterback; Jason Castillo, left half; Mike Blankenship, right half; and Tom Meadows, slotback, will start in the backfield.



STRAIGHT ARM . . . Rambling around right end, a Bishop Montgomery halfback wards off a potential West High tackler in a controlled scrimmage Monday on the Warrior's gridiron. Despite a lack of weight and experience, Montgomery head coach George Swade feels the Knights will be able to improve last season's 1-8 mark that included only a win over Mount Carmel. West gained one win and a tie last season and could improve the record against Pioneer League opposition although competition will be tougher.

(Herald Photo by Darrell Maddox)



SPARTAN AMBUSH . . . Surrounded by South High tacklers in Monday's controlled scrimmage, a Torrance High ball carrier prepares for a sudden ending to his jaunt. South coach Dave Tollefson envisions a possible third-place Bay League finish for his club behind Santa Monica and

Mira Costa. Tartar mentor Irv Kasten is not overly optimistic about his team's chances of defending its Pioneer League crown and predicts a third-place ending after Aviation and El Segundo.

(Herald Photo by Darrell Maddox)